

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5
1. An absorbent article having a body surface and a garment surface, the absorbent article comprising a topsheet disposed at the body surface, a backsheet disposed at the garment surface, and an absorbent core disposed therebetween, at least a portion of the absorbent article being provided with a skin care composition, characterized in that

the absorbent article has a preferential acquisition zone and a skin care zone, the preferential acquisition zone covering at least a portion of the vulva of the wearer when the absorbent article is applied on the wearer's body,

10 the skin care zone is provided with the skin care composition of greater basis weight than the preferential acquisition zone.

2. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the preferential acquisition zone is provided with the skin care composition of not greater than 20 g/m², preferably not greater than 12 g/m², more preferably not greater than 4 g/m².
3. The absorbent article of Claim 2 wherein the preferential acquisition zone is not provided with the skin care composition.
4. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the skin care composition is provided on the topsheet of the preferential acquisition zone, wherein the acquisition rate of the portion of the topsheet which is provided with the skin care composition is not less than 70 % of the acquisition rate of the topsheet before the skin care composition is applied, preferably not less than 75 % of the acquisition rate of the topsheet before the skin care composition is applied, more preferably not less than 85 % of the acquisition rate of the topsheet before the skin care composition is applied.
5. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the skin care zone is provided with a skin care composition of between 0.1 g/m² and 100 g/m², preferably between 0.5 g/m² and 90 g/m², more preferably between 1 g/m² and 80 g/m².
6. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the absorbent article has a main body portion, the main body portion having at least three sections, the three section

comprising a first end section, a second end section, and a central section which is disposed between the first end section and the second end section, wherein the preferential acquisition zone includes at least a portion of the central section.

7. The absorbent article of Claim 6 wherein the skin care zone includes at least a portion of the first end section or at least a portion of the second end section.

8. The absorbent article of Claim 7 wherein the preferential acquisition zone is defined by a transverse width and a longitudinal length, wherein the width is between 10 mm and 80 mm and the length is between 20 mm and 120 mm, preferably the width is between 20 mm and 70 mm and the length is between 30 mm and 110 mm, more preferably the width is between 30 mm and 60 mm and the length is between 40 mm and 100 mm.

9. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the absorbent article has flaps extending laterally outwardly, wherein the skin care zone includes a portion of the flap which is folded during the use of the absorbent article.

10. The absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the absorbent article has a peripheral portion to define the outline of the absorbent article, wherein the skin care zone includes at least a portion of the peripheral portion.

[illegible]